



Allandale Neighbor

June 2018
Vol 33, Issue 3

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CONTENTS

President's Letter: The Heat is On.....	2
Allandale Eating - Allandale Ices Over (with Iced Treats).....	4
More Allandale Eating - Quick Bites.....	5
Allandale Outside: Thank You Ginger Soulé!	7
BUG OFF! Mud Daubers.....	9
Gullett Good News.....	9
All About Lamar	11
It's Knight Time - McCallum Updates.....	12
Neighborhood Watch.....	12
Insurance Appraisal or Sales Receipt - What's the Difference?.....	14
Westminster Manor Expansion Plans	16
NW Park Pond News	16
CodeNEXT Still Fatally Flawed After Planning Commission Revisions.....	17
Austin Classical Guitar's dream: listening to youth voices of Austin!	18
Songwriters Series at Threadgill's.....	18

Help us reach our Northwest Park survey goal for Allandale!

Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey at the link below.

Results will directly impact improvements and additions to Northwest Park for years to come. Make your voice heard!



tinyurl.com/northwestparksurvey

Thank you, *Friends of Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park*

Allandale July 4th Parade

Rand Zumwalt

This year the parade falls on a Wednesday and marks the 60th anniversary of the Allandale July 4th Parade. The parade will organize at the intersection of Bullard and

White Rock at 8:30 a.m. The march will begin at 9 a.m. and continue north on Bullard, ending at Gullett Elementary School.

At the conclusion of the parade, we will hand out awards and continue the festivities with a mixture of fun activities and treats. Currently, we are working on getting a few food trucks and local luminaries in attendance.

Please come and join the fun. Parade attendees customarily dress in costumes and decorate strollers, bicycles, pets, vehicles and even horses. The Allandale

Neighborhood Association welcomes all comers and will be updating our usual neighborhood social media sites and other online groups as more information becomes available.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, recommendations, or would like to get involved with the planning or operation of the parade, please contact Rand Zumwalt, Vice President of the ANA Executive Committee, at rezumwalt@gmail.com. ☼

Am I an ANA Member?

Ranleigh Hirsh

I receive the Allandale Neighborhood newsletter, I must be an Allandale Neighborhood Association (ANA) member right? Not necessarily. Through the support of our great advertisers, 4,500 residents in Allandale receive our newsletter delivered to their door on a bimonthly basis absolutely free.

ANA members pay annual dues of \$20 per household (\$10 for seniors). Dues that help support ANA activities such as this newsletter, annual garage sale; our 4th of July parade, recycling events, news about city activities that impact Allandale such as CodeNEXT and neighborhood events in our parks and schools. With

Northwest Park: Small Steps Lead to Big Impact

Monica Malhotra

We have spent the past two articles in this newsletter introducing ourselves as Friends of Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park, listing our pur-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Volunteers Needed for ANA Nominating Committee, Executive Committee

Kevin Smith

Help shape the future of the Allandale Neighborhood Association!

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

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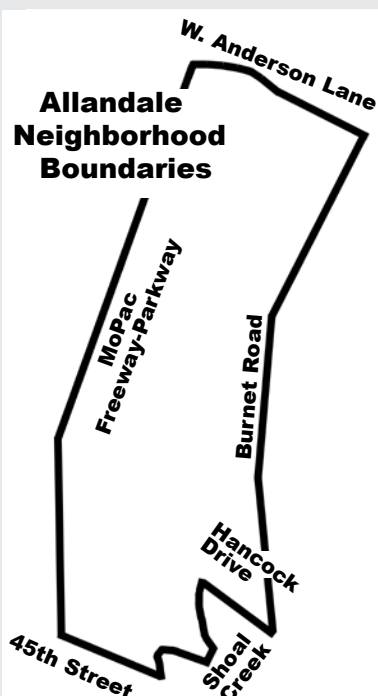
ANA Executive Committee meetings are held on the
first Wednesday of the month at NW Rec Center.
General Membership meetings are held in March and
September.

Committees

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President's Letter: The Heat is On

Scott Ehlers, ANA President, 2017-18, 512-553-9365,
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Summer in Allandale is here and we all know what that means – 100+ degree temperatures, the AC running day and night, and the nearest relief in sight is Northwest Pool. We're lucky to have some good, cold drinks in the neighborhood to keep us cool too, whether it be a tasty local brew at Billy's on Burnet, or a frozen margarita (with salt!) at El Mercado.

It was a "hot" May for the Allandale Neighborhood Association Executive Committee (ANA EC) also, which had to develop our position on CodeNEXT version 3 (CN3) and put together a resolution on the Burnet Road Corridor. CodeNEXT, as readers of Allandale Neighbor well know, is the city's controversial attempt at creating a new Land Development Code, which would rezone most properties in the city, including all of Allandale. I am so upset with the city's CodeNEXT development process that my letter to city council with the ANA EC's position paper said:

[T]hese comments and recommendations do not address the 410-page addendum to CodeNEXT version 3, released on April 20, 2018. Frankly, we find such an extensive revision—released one week before public comment hearings—to be unacceptable and irresponsible. Volunteer neighborhood associations such as ours do not have high-paid professional staff and lobbyists to constantly review the ever-changing, moving target

that is CodeNEXT.

I am sad to say that the way in which CodeNEXT has been developed has made me much more distrustful of Austin's city government. I get the distinct impression that city staff and many elected officials have made up their minds as to what is best for all of us and they don't really care what residents think about CodeNEXT.

Unfortunately, I feel like this whole process is a sham that has needlessly sucked hundreds of hours from the lives of my neighbors and me.

We are not happy.

The ANA EC's position paper (<https://tinyurl.com/ANA-CodeNEXT3>) makes numerous recommendations, including:

- Create a zoning category that allows only one unit per lot similar to current SF2 zoning (Allandale's current zoning);
- CN3 allows buildings as high as 85 feet tall within 100 feet of homes. This is excessive and compatibility standards should be restored to current code requirements or something similar;
- CodeNEXT should not be implemented until city staff and consultants have completed comprehensive modeling on the impacts of increased flooding potential that will result from increased density in flood prone areas like Allandale;
- Reduce the excessive number of

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bars allowed along Burnet Road and Anderson Lane under CN3;

- Require parking minimums be maintained at levels in the current code. After Austin has established the capacity for mass transit that would truly allow for less parking, then reducing parking minimums can be revisited;
- City planners and their consultants should adjust the current draft to match population projections, and therefore the need for increased housing, to the official projections developed by the City Demographer; and
- Before the City Council votes on CodeNEXT, all of the potential negative consequences of CodeNEXT on schools, traffic, infrastructure, property taxes, and family-friendly housing must be adequately analyzed so that Austinites and the City Council are ade-

quately informed as to whether the costs of CodeNEXT are worth its implementation.

The City Council is scheduled to vote on CodeNEXT this summer, despite the numerous problems with it according to neighborhood groups, real estate developers, architects, disability rights advocates, and environmentalists. Keep an eye on the Allandale listserv for action alerts when we need you to contact Mayor Adler and the City Council.

Our Burnet Road Corridor resolution was submitted to the city because the ANA EC is concerned about many elements of the plan, including inserting raised medians where current turn lanes are between 2222 and Anderson Lane, which we believe will negatively impact businesses on Burnet and increase traffic coming into the neighborhood. We do agree that sidewalks along Burnet need improving and a pedestrian crossing is

needed at Twin Oaks and Burnet, which the plan calls for.

The ANA's Parks Committee, Anderson High students, and neighborhood volunteers were working hard in the hot sun in May and June too. At Northwest Park they mulched the grounds, painted and leveled picnic tables, and painted and cleaned up the grills. Thanks to all the volunteers who have been beautifying the park over the past few months.

Finally, the July 4th Parade is shaping up to be a sizzling good time this year. We already know over 10 elected officials and nominees plan on marching. Now we just need you to organize your neighbors to put a float in the parade, or just dress up your bike, trike, or automobile in some good ol' fashioned red, white, and blue. If you have any questions about being in the parade or volunteering to make this year's parade the hottest ever, send Rand Zumwalt an email at rezumwalt@gmail.com. ☼

Allandale 4th of July Parade--Join Us!

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Allandale Eating - Allandale Ices Over (with Iced Treats)

Robert E. Mace, Dining from Daugherty

As I write this in late May, the forecasted temperatures for June are surface-of-the-sunny: 100, 102, 105, and (gasp) 1 OMG 6! Is there a better time to sample what Allandale's icy purveyors are purveying? I think not. Fortunately, we have quite a selection of icy treats to choose from, from locally-sourced ingredients to iconic locals to international affairs to mad-scientist concoctions. I'm feeling cool already!

But first, a chilling story: No one knows precisely who invented iced treats, but they reach at least as far back as the 5th century BC when the Greeks enjoyed snow mixed with honey and fruit. The Persian royalty, not to be left out, served a frozen treat made with rose water and vermicelli mixed with fruits and flavors in the 4th century BC. Alexander the Great (356 to 323 BC) was known to enjoy snow and ice dowsed in honey and nectar. About 200 BC, the Chinese cooled down with a milk and rice mixture frozen

in the snow. The Roman Emperor Nero (54 to 86 AD) sent runners into the mountains to fetch snow to lather with fruit and juice. Marco Polo (1254 to 1324 AD) came back from the Far East with the recipe for sherbet. By the 1500s, ice cream started to show up in Italy and England and quickly made it to America. George Washington was a total ice head, spending about \$200 on ice cream in the summer of 1790 (that's about \$3,000 in today's dollars!).

That brings us to today, here in Allandale. Because ice cream is like (cough, cough) pizza (there is no such thing as bad pizza), I'm going to list Allandale's ice joints alphabetically. Given the temperatures, you should try them all!

Amy's Ice Creams (5624 Burnet Road) is a local icon, making cool ice cream before it was cool to make cool ice cream. Started by Amy Simmons in 1984, her flavors have always been inventive and fun. In all, the shop has 350 flavors in

rotation, including Yoda's Swamp, Texas Dirt Cake, Shiner Bock, Sith Happens, and Jalapeño Bacon. The Burnet Road location is uber kid friendly and co-located with Phil's Ice House, so you can start with a burger and end with a cream!

Berry Austin (5523 Balcones Drive) is a home-grown self-serve yogurt shop located across MoPac from 2222. Inspired by the therapeutic properties of probiotic frozen yogurt provided to her father recovering from cancer in California, Kathy Steele brought the frozen yogurt concept to Austin. Berry Austin rotates 10 flavors, including a dairy-free sorbet.

Holla Mode (1309 West 45th Street) pours out Thai style ice cream out of a home-grown seasonal trailer (March through September) at 45th and Burnet. I say "pours out" because Thai style is just that: fresh ingredients poured onto a chilled stainless steel plate and then scraped from the plate after they freeze, a unique way of making and serving ice

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cream. Holla Mode is made with local dairy or organic coconut milk and sports a rotating menu of seasonal flavors and specialties including the Oreo Speedwagon, the Bhumi Bhowl, and the adorable Honey Bear. You can also “build your own” with the available ingredients. An ice cream is, at first blush, quite expensive (\$6.50), but portions are huge, so bring a friend to share.

Lick Honest Ice Creams (6555 Burnet Road) is a home-grown purveyor of what I would call fancy, all natural ice cream. The “Honest” in the name comes from using local, all-natural ingredients, such as Mill-King Market & Creamery and local farmers and suppliers. Besides the usual suspects, Lick also features creative flavors such as Roasted Beet and Fresh Mint; Dark Chocolate, Olive Oil, and Sea Salt; and seasonals such as Lady Bird Lavender Crisp. Lick also sports vegan and dairy-free options (such as the newly added Thai Lime and Lemongrass).

If Dr. Frankenstein found himself in need of an ice cream and it was too far to the nearest ice scooper, he would have jolted electricity into a bottle of cream and created Spun (4805 Burnet Road [inside Noble Sandwich Co {It’s alive!

ALIVE!!!!])). The creation of this ice cream, prepared right before your eyes, involves liquid nitrogen, mixers, and (no joke) blow torches. Spun uses local, no preservative, organic ingredients, including milk from Mill-King. They have the basic flavors into which you can mix various mixing and toppings.

Yogurtland (2525 West Anderson Lane near Walmart and the supercharger) is the national chain from California that invented the self-serve frozen yogurt shop. They have more than 200 flavors with 16 flavors available at any one time in any one store. Flavors can vary from store to store, so if you have a favorite flavor, you can use an locate your nearest fave. app to find a particular flavor in town). Y-land has dairy-free and gluten-free choices and a new seasonal flavor Hibiscus Pear Tart.

Yumilicious (2700 West Anderson Lane, near Alamo Drafthouse) is a Texas self-serve yogurt chain with 13 stores in Texas and 2 in South Carolina (!!!). Our Yumi has a crisp modern interior and, in addition to the expected choices, had (when I last visited) Avocado Tart (sounds bizarre, but rich and creamy), Tarolicious Tart, and Stok Cold Brew Gelato. Flavors

are split broadly into tarts and sweets.

In its list of the best icy joints in town, Eater Austin listed Holla Mode at #9, Spun at #10, Lick at #12, and Amy’s at #13. A short trip down Medical Parkway gets you close to #2 Teo (1206 West 38th Street), a gelato joint rated as one of the top 5 in the world! Stay cool, Allandale! ☼

More Allandale Eating – Quick Bites

Robert E. Mace

There’s always something cooking with Allandale’s restaurant scene, and this issue finds more openings, closings, and accolades sizzling on the griddle. First up: who’s coming, who’s here, and who’s turned the burners off.

The Parkside Projects, instigators of Parkside, Backspace, Olive & June, Bullfight, and 800 Congress, are opening the second of their upscale juice bars, Jugo, down Rosedale way. Jugo not only serves juices but healthy foods as well for dine-in or take-out.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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More Allandale Eating – Quick Bites

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

El Tacorrido's authentic Mexican street cuisine is now open at North Loop and Burnet (see mini-review at bottom). Home Slice over on North Loop is also now open. Wild Chix and Waffles rolled out its first mixed drink (margaritas!) with plans for more in the near future.

The Goodnight on Anderson Lane said goodnight in May, reportedly due to landlord issues, and may reopen downtown. Bonhomie sadly closed after brunch on May 20th. When I saw that the highly-rated French-American diner had restricted its hours a few months ago, I feared it wasn't long for this world. Phillip Speer, the acclaimed proprietor and Allandale resident, announced plans to open a new restaurant downtown. I hope he brings some recipes with him to the new place: I thought Bonhomie's cheeseburger was the second best in town (right after Justine's Royale with Cheese).

National, state, and local accolades for

Allandale restaurants continue to roll in. Food and Wine recognized Kemuri Tatsuya as one of its restaurants of the year (the progenitors leased space next to Tacodeli, so our time is coming). Austin Monthly recognized Barley Swine, Bonhomie, Bufalina, Eldorado Cafe, Fonda San Miguel, and Tacodeli as "Best of the Best in Austin."

Austin Culture Map recognized epicerie and picnic as two of the "9 Grab and Go Spots for a Spring Picnic;" Bufalina, Bonhomie, and epicerie as "10 Best Neighborhood Restaurants that are Good for the Soul;" Bufalina as one of the "10 Best Restaurants Where Every Austinite Should Dine in 2018;" and Bryce Gilmore of Barley Swine and Phillip Speer of Bonhomie as two of the "9 Best Chefs in Austin."

Listmakers Eater Austin recognized Be More Pacific (#2 on the list) and T22 (#3) as two of the "20 Hottest Restau-

rants in Austin in April; Barley Swine (#4), epicerie (#5), Bufalina (#23), and Jack Allen's (#35) as "38 Essential Restaurants in Austin, Spring 2018;" Bonhomie (#1) as one of "11 Excellent All-day Restaurants;" Be More Pacific (#1) as one of the "11 Hottest New Brunches;" Tacorrido's menudo (#12) as one of "25 Comforting Soups;" Lucy's Fried Chicken (#7), Barley Swine (#18), and Bartlett's (#20) among "The Best Steaks in Austin;" Fonda San Miguel's Numero Uno Margarita (#3) as one of "20 excellent margaritas;" and Be More Pacific (#3) and T22 (#4) as two of the "20 Hottest Restaurants in Austin for May."

El Tacorrido (Burnet and North Loop)

As I was about 43 percent into my third taco, I thought to myself "This is a dang good, savory taco, but the brisket is way too fatty." After nipping another 7

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percent onto my taste buds, I jolted to a chewing stop: "Wait a minute: I didn't order a brisket taco!" It was the vegetarian mushroom taco I had ordered, hands down the best veggie taco I've ever had (amazing how expectations and reality change things...). El Tacorrido is fast-casual dining with a drive-thru. The space is bright and cheery with an indoor-outdoor patio (although navigating the door between the conditioned and semi-conditioned space requires expert-level taco juggling). The tacos and tortes are street-food yummy with the expected fillings but also a few unique-for-Allandale ingredients such as pork skin, pork stomach, beef cheek, tripe, and nopalitos. You can also order taco fixins' to go (minimum order of 10-12 tacos) and assemble them in the comfort of your own home. And they are open LATE: midnight during the week; 3 am for the weekend with break

fast tacos all day and menudo on the weekends.

Noon (2438 West Anderson Lane)

Noon is Verts rebranded with a different fast-casual Mediterranean menu. Gone, sadly, is the delicious rotisserie'd proteins (a big reason we visited Verts) and in its place are bowls of guest-chosen ingredients or chef-inspired dishes. Think of it as Chipotles from across the pond. The interior is redone into a clean, modern vibe steeped in a hip electronic-leaning soundtrack. Noon has a seasonal menu in addition to its standard fare. I enjoyed a spicy lamb meatball bowl that was delicious, photogenic, and, indeed, spicy!

(Editor's Note: BOOOO Bonhommie! That's a heart break. Was a fantastic place) ☹

Allandale Outside: Thank You Ginger Soulé!

Editor

A quick thank you to long time Allandale Outside writer Ginger Soulé. Ginger has been writing about gardens and trees and everything outdoors as long as I've been involved with the newsletter – at least since early 2014 when I came on as editor. She has just turned 80 – major congrats! How awesome! – and will be focusing on other things. On behalf of all of us in Allandale, THANK YOU Ginger, for your years of outside advice. We will miss reading your words, and appreciate all you shared!

Yes, this means, this space is open and available to any other outdoor types, for every issue, or any issue! Please let us know if you have interest. ☹

Join us for some Parade Action! July 4th, 9am SHARP!

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Northwest Park: Small Steps Lead to Big Impact

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

pose, reiterating our goals, promoting park events, proposing ideas and generally rah rah-ing the park...

Now, thanks to your support, real change is happening in Northwest District Park! At recent park events, 60+ Anderson high school students were seen running up hills lugging sleds full of mulch for the trees and to level picnic areas. Volunteers painted picnic tables getting them ready for the seven (on average) parties that are held in the park each weekend during the summer. The Olympic size swimming pool, with its re-landscaped entrance, opened to help Austinites beat the heat and best of all, Austin Parks Foundation awarded our park a neighborhood grant to fund further improvements in the park.

We are getting there! The small steps are paying off. Take a walk through the park and you will notice its brighter, its cleaner, its greener.

If you are reading this, and thinking of ways you would like to see the park improve, here are ways you can help. Take our survey: www.tinyurl.com/northwest-

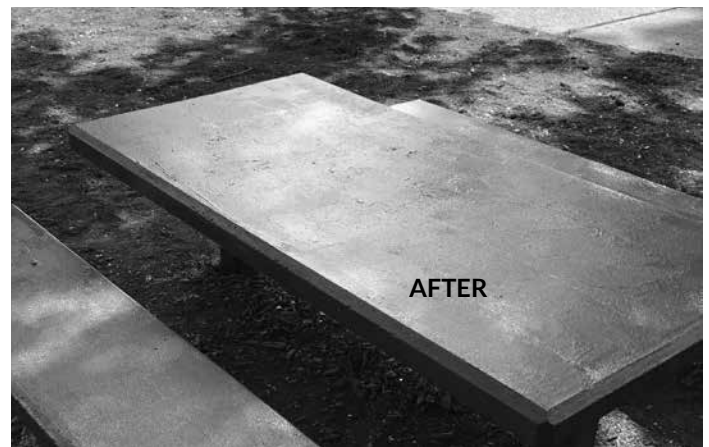
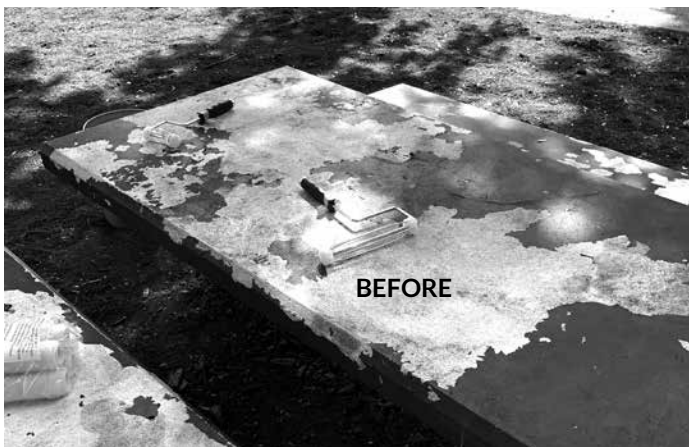


parksurvey; volunteer this fall for It's My Park Day on November 3; or donate funds toward the dozens of improvements the park needs at <https://www.austin-parks.org/sfaform/support-nw-district/>.

As a mother of two young children, do you know what I think when I walk through the park? How about a ramp to enter the park from the west side?? How about an updated playscape, with some shade, that is safer for toddlers? Or a drinking fountain for all those athletes

playing basketball, tennis or working out in the fitness groups? How about a regular 'nature themed' playgroup on Saturday mornings? Or an annual, culturally themed tournament/race in the park that brings together the neighborhoods in the district?

These are just some suggestions – what do YOU want to see? The possibilities are endless. And, if Allandale leads the charge - together we can have them all.



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BUG OFF! Mud Daubers

Wizzie Brown

Mud daubers are a great wasp to have around. They are solitary, generally docile, and can help to reduce various bugs in the landscape. Mud dauber wasps are $\frac{3}{4}$ - 1" in size and come in a variety of colors. They have a very thin, thread-like waist.

Mud daubers create a mud structure that they provision with insects and/or spiders; they lay an egg on each prey item within a cell in the nest, and then seal the nest off. When larvae hatch from eggs, they eat the items provisioned for them, pupate, and then emerge as adults to begin the process over.

Management is not usually needed for mud daubers as they do not guard their nest like other wasps. While they are capable of stinging, they are not considered to be aggressive. If you do not like the look of the mud nests, you can remove them with a putty knife.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown,



Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

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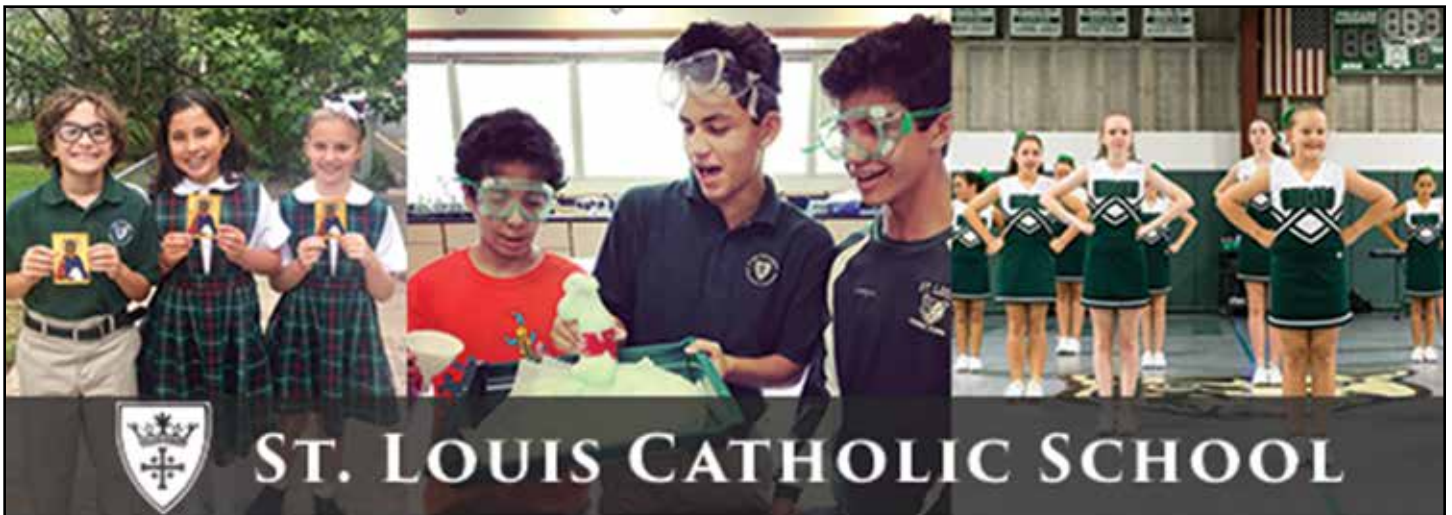
Gullett Good News

Piper Browne

Gullett has wrapped up another wonderful and productive school year! We welcomed a new principal (shout out to Tisha Brown!), celebrated Tina the tortoise's birthday, raised money for readers across Austin, had a carnival, did a color run, sang our hearts out in Alice in Wonderland...and that's just the stuff I can remember off the top of my head.

We also said farewell and don't be a stranger to our fifth grade class of 2018. As part of their legacy project, they installed 2 gaga pits on the playground for the whole community to enjoy. Additionally, these fabulous 5th graders donated 20% of the proceeds from the Veterans Day Fun Run to the Silent Warrior Scholarship Fund. This important charity aids veterans and their families by providing access to emergency assistance, mental health services, education and scholarships. This generous act embodies the true spirit of Gullett and we are so proud

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



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Gullett Good News

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

of them for their leadership. Thank you Class of 2018!

Over the summer, Gullett will be getting gussied up and ready for the upcoming 2018-19 school year. We'll be putting up a sun shade over the main playground, providing students with some much-needed respite from the Texas sun. We'll also have plenty of play dates for our incoming Pre-K and Kindergarten classes throughout the summer, in case you happen to be strolling by and see a group of cute, popsi-ple-stained children.

If you're interested in very part-time work, we are looking for cafeteria monitors for next school year! Who wouldn't want to spend a few hours a week helping our sweet kiddos open those pesky lunch containers? Please check out austinisd.org to apply!

Finally, if you're the type to want to plan ahead, save the date for Saturday, September 29th - that's the date of the annual Gullett Fall Carnival, and we hope to see you there!

To keep on top of all the good stuff happening at Gullett, check out Gullett-Geckos.com.

As always, we appreciate the support and involvement of our whole Allandale community! Have a great summer and stay cool... ☼



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on page 23

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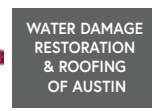
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All About Lamar

Laura Dooley

What a great year for the Lamar Scotties! While our students and teachers are undoubtedly looking forward to their summer break, they'll look back on this school year with memories of exciting times, great achievements, and one more series of STAAR tests behind them (phew!).

Let's recap some recent happenings and take a look at what's around the bend for the Lamar community.

First off, mad props to the Lamar yearbook staff. The yearbook looks amazing! It's so impressive what these kids have created under the expert guidance of Rachel Dietz. This book will be treasured by Lamar students for years to come.

Our ballet and science teacher, Julia Julian, has received recognition for two awesome things this year: not only has she been named Austin ISD's middle school Teacher of the Year, she has also received the award for Rookie Science Teacher of the Year from the Texas Medical Association. In addition to a cash award for Ms. Julian, she'll get \$1,000 to spend as a resource grant for the science department. How lucky are we to have her in our community?!

Scottie artists entering sixth, seventh, or eighth grade next year might consider summer art opportunities at Lamar. Art Camps are being offered the week of July 30 and the week of August 6 from 1:00-4:00. In order to make room for more kids, students will register for only one of the two weeks. Cost is \$150 for the week and there are 25 seats available for each session. Please contact art teacher Ms. Massey to register at sara.massey@austinisd.org.

Scottie dancers have the opportunity to take part in summer community dance classes at Fulmore Middle School, featuring technique, guest artists, and conditioning. Dates are June 12, June 19, June 26, and July 10, all from noon to 1:00. For more info about these drop-in classes, contact AshleyCStanton@gmail.com.

Fun Fact: This summer, Austin kids will be able to ride Capital Metro buses and rails free of charge. CapMetro is rolling out a new program called "Summer Sun, Late Nights and Family Fun," and it runs June 8 through September 1. The program will allow all kids to take advantage of free and safe public transportation, explore the city and have better access to summer programs. Check out the Cap-

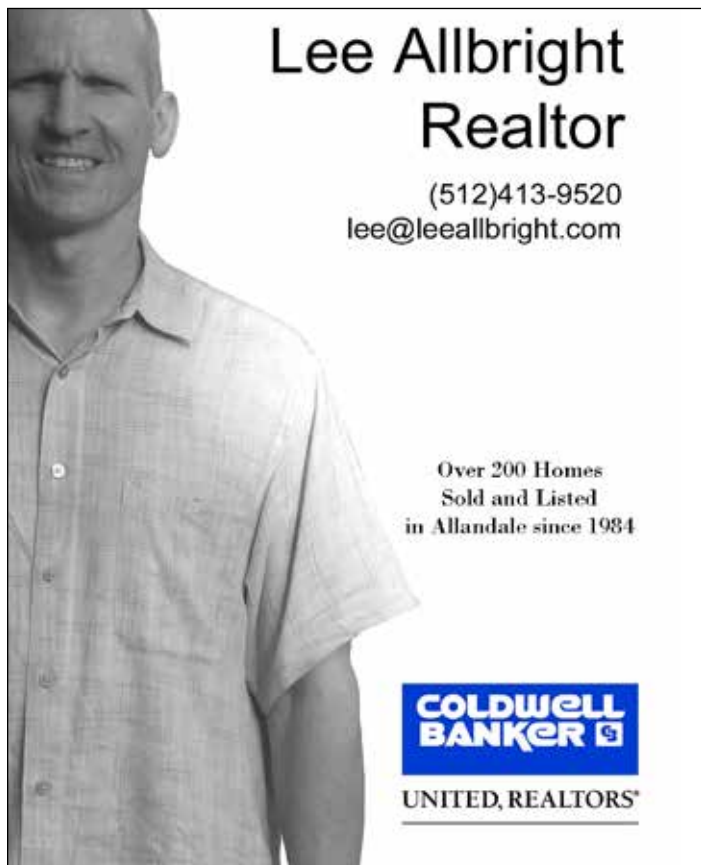


Metro website for more details on this exciting opportunity.

If your Scottie girl has just wrapped up sixth or seventh grade and is interested in playing volleyball, the first practice will be held on the very first day of the new school year, from 3:50 to 6:00. All athletes must have a current physical on file, as well as bring shorts, t-shirt, & athletic shoes to practice and try out for the team.

For our incoming Scottie sixth graders, your transition-to-middle-school camp will be either session #1 (July 30 and 31) or session #2 (August 1-2), both from 10:00-1:00. For more information on these camps, please call the Lamar office at (512) 414-3217. We can't wait to have you join us at Lamar!

Mark your calendars for Monday, August 20... that's the first day of the new school year! Hard to think about right now, but by the time August 20 rolls around, we'll all be ready to jump back in and be part of what makes Lamar Middle School such a great place to be. Happy Summer, everyone! ☼



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It's Knight Time – McCallum Updates

Not only do high school students graduate, but with them, their parents. Thank you to Jill Whiteside Schavrda for keeping us posted on McCallum happenings during “your” years as a Knight! We appreciate you.

We are looking for a new writer of Mac happenings. If you are interested, please contact us!



The McCallum Website is your guide to all information about McCallum High School. Go to the home page at www.mccallumhs.com and mark it as a favorite. The MACKNIGHTLY bi-weekly email newsletter brings you the most current news in a timely fashion. See <https://mccallumhs.com/programs/parents/> for more information. Information below is compiled directly from the McCallum Website and Newsletter. Be sure to check school calendars for changes or updates. ✂

Neighborhood Watch

Laura DiCarlo, ANA Safety Chair, lhdicarlo@yahoo.com

Crime Stats

Since the writing of the April newsletter there have been 2 burglary of residences (BORs) and 7 burglary of vehicles (BOVs). The BORs were at the Rosedale Apartments at 2211 W. North Loop, and 7801 SCB (the condos at SCB and Foster). Three of the BOVs occurred at the Lawnmont Apartments, 1 was at Northwest Little League (NWLL), and the last 3 were at the off leash dog park/retention pond on Great Northern Blvd., Placid Place, and the apartments at 7744 Northcross Dr. More burglaries occur at apartment complexes and parks because there are a large number of vehicles parked there. Hardening targets by locking doors and taking belongings have proven to be the most effective burglary prevention techniques.

If you live in an apartment or condo in Allandale and are interested in getting involved in Neighborhood Watch, please let me know as we need you!

The complete list of crime reports including the aggravated robbery on Northland Dr for which a white male was arrested, assaults, thefts, DWIs, criminal trespass, etc. can be viewed at http://www.krimelabb.com/_nca1/view/v_neighborhood.php?neighborhood=allandale

Activities of the Safety Committee:

- Asked residents for feedback for the 4/23 APD stakeholder's meeting and was told of concerns with homeless people on Anderson and at 2222 near MOPAC, speeding in Shoalmont, foliage-blocked sidewalks for pedestrians and pinch points for bicyclists on SCB, late night activity at NW Park, and bars on windows at the edge of Allandale near Northcross
- Shared concerns with our APD DR Officer Beldin at the meeting that was attended by 18 residents of Baker Sector and 9 APD reps and he followed up with speed trailers in Shoalmont and information that there is no need for bars on windows in any areas of Allandale

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- Shared concerns re SCB bike lane pinch points and suggestion for no parking intermittent striping with COA employees Laura Dierenfield and Nathan Wilkes
- Shared concerns re foliage overhanging sidewalks with resident Erin Ray who is doing a Girl Scout Gold project with the focus on informing residents of the blockage to eliminate hazards.
- Participated in the 4/21 NW park work day
- Cleaned up graffiti on GNB directional signs, a utility box on 2222 at Bullard, etc.
- Reported a Drib tag on the sound wall at GNB and Bullard and the MOPAC Improvement Project cleaned it up
- In helping research the position the ANA should take on the Burnet Rd. mobility project, found 1 bike accident on Anderson in 2014 and 3 on Burnet (2 in 2009 and 1 in 2011) dating back to 2007 as far as krimelabb.com goes; reached out to Officer Beldin to ask a crime analyst for data between 1995 and 2007 but the data

couldn't be readily found; bottom line is there have been practically no accidents because other routes such as SCB are better for bikers

- Consulted about whether a resident should make a police report about a young man in a grey Nissan pick-up truck offering massages; I suggested yes
- Learned of residents' concerns of limited visibility turning left out of Strass onto Hancock and will be in touch with the city to ask for their suggestions

Listserve discussion/Nextdoor posts:

- Ongoing issues with speeding, bike and pedestrian safety of GNB
- A perpetrator was caught on a surveillance camera and APD is better able to look for the suspect now
- Ripped open Amazon packages found in resident's recycling can on McElroy; the resident returned the remains of the packages to the address sent to (6000 block of SCB)
- Pros and cons of Drib tag on the GNB sound wall by NWLL that encouraged the players to "swing

for the fences"

- Coyotes active in the area
- Green growth covering the pond at NW Park can be dangerous for children as it looks solid
- IRS scam calls (note – the IRS will never call – they'll correspondence is writing and send in the mail)
- Janker reminded everyone to use the 311 app to report graffiti



Broader than just in Allandale:

- Learned Interim Chief Brian Manley is the sole candidate for permanent chief and supported his appointment through CLASP (the Citizen Led Austin Safety Partnership)
- Learned of safety measures Governor Abbott is considering for schools and am concerned about options that may not truly lead to greater safety; trying to formulate ideas on this issue that should not be political

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



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ALLANDALE AREA	PROPERTY SALES YEAR IN REVIEW		
	2015	2016	2017
TOTAL TRANSACTIONS	77	79	84
MEDIAN SALES PRICE	\$495,000	\$515,000	\$549,500
MEDIAN DAYS ON MARKET	10	9	11
MEDIAN \$/SQ FT	\$272	\$290	\$297
MAX PRICE SOLD	\$1,199,000	\$880,000	\$1,317,000
MIN PRICE SOLD	\$310,000	\$355,000	\$399,900

For detailed market information about your home contact Jason Heffron, Broker

All YTD data is pulled from Austin MLS for single family residence as of January 1st - December 31st.

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Neighborhood Watch

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE 13

Please contact me with questions, concerns, or if you are interested in getting involved with the safety committee. You can become a block captain, help remove graffiti, patrol, help plan and Take 10 CPR training next February, and more!

Laura DiCarlo
Allandale Neighborhood Association
Safety Chair
lhdicarlo@yahoo.com
(512)529-1701 (c)

Our APD District Representative:

Everett Beldin
Senior Patrol Officer
Baker 3 District Rep
Everett.beldin@austintexas.gov
Ph# 512-974-1219 ☎

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Insurance Appraisal or Sales Receipt - What's the Difference?

Joseph R. Villarreal, Graduate Gemologist (GIA), at Villarreal Fine Jewelers

Have you ever wondered why the jewelry appraisal value may sometimes be higher than the amount on your sales receipt? The answer may surprise you.

A sales receipt will list generic items such as the date, item, price you paid and of course the name of the establishment where you purchased the item. However, a sales receipt is not really detailed enough for an insurance company to properly insure the item.

An insurance valuation or description should contain much more detailed information on the item. The appraisal will include particulars such as color and clarity of the gemstones, the type of metal, number of gemstones, design and other important related details such as hallmarks or trademarks of the manufacturer. This way if the item being described is ever lost or stolen, it can be replaced with an item of the same quality. Consequent-

ly, the appraisal is a much more detailed description. Why is this important?

Let us say that you just purchased a diamond tennis bracelet from your favorite jeweler. The original price of the tennis bracelet is \$3,000. However, you just happened to purchase it during a sale and you pay only \$2000 which is a discount of 1/3, or a savings of \$1,000. The description of the item on the receipt will probably be described as; a 3.00-carat, diamond tennis bracelet and the price paid (\$2000). You may think the description of the item on the receipt is sufficient. However, it really isn't detailed enough for the insurance company that might have to replace it should it be damaged, lost or stolen. Which brings us to the question- What dollar amount should the appraisal reflect, the actual amount that was paid or what the item was originally priced at?

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The answer is neither! After proper market research, the item should be valued at what is called the "Retail Replacement Value". Retail Replacement Value takes into consideration current market conditions within the same geographic area for similar or like product. In other words, the appraisal should reflect an average price or replacement value of what the market demands for a like item of the same quality. In this case, the amount would be \$3,000 dollars, not necessarily for the reason the original price was

\$3,000 but for the fact that after thorough research, it was determined to be the most common selling price for similar product in that geographic area. This is one of the main reasons an appraisal has a different function from your sales receipt.

Let's take it a step further. What if the item had been appraised and insured at only \$2,000 and was lost only a few months later? You then file a claim with the insurance company and ultimately collect your money (\$2,000). Afterwards, you attempt to purchase the same type of tennis bracelet that was lost or stolen. Only this time you are not fortunate enough to find the bracelet on sale. Remember, the original price was \$3,000. After shopping around, you realize that you simply cannot replace the item for the \$2,000 appraised value you insured the item for. In other words, the item was not properly appraised and therefore was undervalued. Therefore, it is very important to have a thorough appraisal for all your jewelry items. Industry experts suggest your jewelry be inspected at least once a year. Experts also suggest your appraisal up-dated every 3-5 years. The last thing you want to experience is a loss, only to find out that you are under insured, which is often the case.

These days consumers are savvy, educated shoppers. By shopping and comparing apples to apples, consumers are more likely to identify what the current market is for a particular item. I firmly believe our best clients are those who have done their homework. This way there are no surprises and consumers know exactly what they want to buy with their hard-earned dollars.

For more information, contact Joseph R. Villarreal, Graduate Gemologist (GIA), at Villarreal Fine Jewelers, located at 7600 Burnet Road, Ste. 520, Austin, TX 78757 - 512-231-8502. Or visit on-line at VillarrealJewelers.com. ☞



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Westminster Manor Expansion Plans

Laura Beck with content from Westminster

Westminster Manor, established in 1967, is proposing an expansion and conversion of their existing facility on their property located at 4200 Jackson Avenue. The proposal includes a new building on the north portion of the property where there is currently a surface parking lot. The proposal also includes the conversion of existing units from small studios to larger one and two bedroom units. The land use on the property remains the same, which is a continuing care retirement community (defined by the City as Congregate Living).

The goal to complete the expansion and conversion is planned for 2021. The program includes four phases and is in the preliminary planning stage. Once the expansion and conversion are completed,

it is anticipated that the property will include approximately 50 additional assisted living/memory care/skilled nursing units and 0-20 additional independent living units. Amenities will be provided for the residents in the expansion area and in the existing building including dining, chapel, wellness office, spa, group exercise, and wellness lounge. Underground parking will be included under the new expansion building on the north portion of the property.

For the project, the current phase is Community Outreach with a tentative rezoning application submission to the City of Austin in June, public hearings on the plan this Fall. We appreciate Westminster sharing its plans with us, as a continued good neighbor. ♻️

NW Park Pond News

Editor, sharing information from the City of Austin Watershed Protection, and our own pond advocate, neighbor Mary Fero

Our much-loved pond in Northwest Park becomes concerning with Austin's hot summer weather. City of Austin Watershed Protection Division is aware of the situation exploring efforts to increase water movement which improves oxygenation in the pond. One possible option is a water feature to help aerate the water. To expedite city recommendations a fundraising appeal could follow once a clear path forward is identified. Our strong neighborhood support, as witnessed by caring volunteers who planted native species along the pond's edge. Their efforts are greatly appreciated and are counted on to keep our pond healthy.

City staff confirmed that rainwater runoff from the surrounding neighborhood does not drain into the pond. The runoff flows through stormwater drains located around the pond. Northwest park

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pool does discharge water into the pond after Sodium Thiosulfate treatment which removes the chlorine, the same thing used with home fish aquariums. Keep in mind our pond is not a natural body of water that flows like a creek. Its water level maintained by pool water discharge in the summer.

Fish kills which happen occasionally are caused by high summer heat and low dissolved oxygen levels in the water. To improve pond oxygen levels native plants that flower, shade and add oxygen to pond water have been planted during volunteer work days. These plants put dissolved oxygen in the water through their respiration. Shade from their floating leaves reduces water temperature helping to control algae growth during hot days. City staff is monitoring the amount of duckweed (*Lemna minor*) in the pond as it goes through boom and bust cycles. Some people may not like the look of duckweed but it plays a role in our pond's ecosystem. Please do not remove the duckweed allowing city personnel to take corrective measures when necessary.

To decrease the amount of organic material transported into the pond due to mowing turfgrass, the mowing regime has been changed allowing the banks around the pond to be "Grow Zones." Dense herbaceous growth at pond margins is a natural condition helping to filter organic matter and sediment from reaching the pond. Signs are posted indicating the grow-zone on the edges of the pond. Pond access and viewing locations are maintained along the sides of the pond with the sidewalk and footpath. These areas are kept mowed to allow pond access.

It is helpful to not feed waterfowl or fish in the pond. Bread offers no nutritional value and is actually unhealthy and potentially dangerous for the ducks. While fishing in the pond is a popular activity a fishing license is required. If you do plan to fish practice catch and release fishing methods remembering the fish are not stocked and are not suitable for human consumption. Additionally, releasing pet koi or goldfish in the pond is inappropriate these are considered invasive species harming our native species. ☼

CodeNEXT Still Fatally Flawed After Planning Commission Revisions

Allan McMurtry

The human endurance test entitled CodeNEXT continues to slouch toward builders' mayhem. At 2,450 pages and counting, it dwarfs the current code it was to supposed to supplant and simplify.

Over some five-plus days in May, the Planning Commission (PC) deliberated for dozens of hours in an attempt to clean up CodeMess (see: http://austintexas.gov/city-clerk/boards_commissions/meetings/40_1.htm). The ANA's Todd Shaw has been appointed to the PC, and while I applaud him for the many, many hours he worked trying to minimize the damage to Allandale, I realize there's only so much one person can do.

I believe many problems still plague CodeNEXT after the Planning Commission's revisions, including:

- 120 ft. tall buildings along Burnet Road with density bonuses;
- Multi-story apartments along Koenig on both sides of the street;
- Directing staff "to get as close to no parking requirements as possible...."
- Removing open space requirements for developments;

Austinites received notice of these changes only 19 hours before the City Council's final public hearing on CodeNEXT on June 3, making it impossible to effectively comment on them. It is a clever new twist on democracy, as is the refusal by Council to put the 31,000+ signature petition on the ballot to allow Austinites to vote on CodeNEXT.

As near as I can determine,

CodeNEXT is a paper equivalency of a natural disaster. Not only will it precipitate some by increasing the dangers of flooding, but it will pull out by the roots any semblance of concern for families. We're already seeing apartments on Burnet with an AISD student population running at or below 1%.

The fight against CodeNEXT will be Churchillian. We'll have to engage all elements of the process and the product if for no other reason than to retain the character of the City that has made Austin unique. CodeNEXT is the '49 gold rush for land and profits. It benefits almost nobody currently living here. It is designed for those who aren't here. If you want to get an idea of what future parking will look like, drive down Burnet Lane south of Justin.

City Council is expected to vote on CodeNEXT for first, second, and third readings this summer. What is needed now is for citizens to raise their voice in opposition. You can do that by going to <http://www.austintexas.gov/government> and by

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CodeNEXT Still Fatally Flawed After Planning Commission Revisions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

sending in your comments or calling in to the Mayor and your Council Member. Two of the staunchest opponents of CodeNEXT are Council Members Alter and Pool. You can encourage them to continue to push against it.

For those who think that this is a personal financial bonanza, the chances are 1 in 9 that a developer will pick your house rather than ones across the street, beside, or behind you to drop in a multi-unit development. As you watch those units go up, you get to consider the impacts on the uses of your lot and of the street. To insure you get the first really dense conversion, you may have to compete with neighbors for the lowest sales price. ☹

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Austin Classical Guitar's dream: listening to youth voices of Austin

Karen Gallant, Allandale Resident and Director of Operations at Austin Classical Guitar

dream is a follow-up to last summer's production called *i/we*, which just won the Austin Critics Table Award for Best Original Composition. *i/we* was a compassion project that explored themes of commonality, struggle, perseverance, and home through interviews with refugees settling in central Texas.

For *dream*, ACG will create a multimedia arts experience based on interviews with diverse young people from the Austin community. We're asking them to tell us about their hopes and dreams, fears and perspectives on the world they will inherit, and we're surrounding their words with original music and images. Austin Classical Guitar's award-winning Composer in Residence Joseph V. Williams is creating the work, and an international cast of incredible artists including Austin-based vocalist Ta'Tyana Janner, and instrumentalists playing violin, cello, percussion, and guitar will premiere the work alongside original art and projections. *dream* will take place on August 3, 4, and 5 at the Blanton Museum Auditorium on the UT Campus.

We would like to invite members of the Allandale Neighborhood Association to join us for *dream* and enjoy a 25% discount! Just call 512-300-2247 and mention you're with ANA or visit us online at AustinClassicalGuitar.org/dream and use the coupon code "allandale".

Songwriters Series at Threadgill's

A great way to beat the summer heat is to saunter over to Threadgill's on Lamar to listen to a cool new songwriters series. A legendary spot in Austin music, where Janis Joplin started it all, and one of the first live music venues in the city. Plus, It's AIR CONDITIONED! And don't forget about those fried green tomatoes, they rock... Check out the events at Old No. 1 on their webpage. ☹

Volunteers Needed for ANA Nominating Committee, Executive Committee

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Nominating Committee

Have you wanted to get more involved in the Allandale Neighborhood Association (ANA) but feel you just don't have the time? If you can spare a few hours this summer, you can help choose the new leadership of ANA by joining the Nominating Committee!

The ANA relies on our neighbors who are not a member of the board to choose the new members of the Executive Committee (EC) through the Nominating Committee. According to ANA bylaws, the Nominating Committee needs five members, only two of whom can be on the EC. We are looking for three volunteers to provide a few hours of their time this summer, to review applications and nominate some "worthy individuals" to serve on the ANA EC. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested in helping, please contact the Nominating Committee Chair, Kevin Smith, at kevinjsmith76@gmail.com.

Executive Committee

Do you have passion for neighborhood matters and would like to help craft neighborhood policy?

The Executive Committee (EC) is the place for you! The EC is the principal

governing and policy-making body of the Allandale Neighborhood Association (ANA) and consists of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and Seven Directors. Because several EC members are retiring this year, there will be approximately three vacancies on the EC for 2018-2019. If you are interested in shaping and preserving the future of Allandale, please consider applying.

According to the bylaws, to be on the EC you need to be:

1. A resident of Allandale;
2. A voting member in good standing of the Allandale Neighborhood Association; and,
3. The only member of your household on the EC.

Terms of EC members are for one year, and you can serve up to three consecutive years (however, a president in their third consecutive year may serve a fourth year).

Additionally, we are looking for a balanced EC with respect to geographic residence, age, gender, occupation, and areas of expertise, as well as interest in the goals of the ANA.

The term of the new EC members will begin upon their

election at the annual General meeting in September.

For more information, contact Kevin Smith, at kevinjsmith76@gmail.com or utext-as.edu. Applications are due by July 31. ☼

Am I an ANA Member?

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your help, ANA works to produce education and programs to help improve the quality of life in our area.

Want to become a member and get involved? Go to allandaleneighbor.com/membership to join.

If you are not sure you are a member, send an email to membershipallandale@gmail.com.

Thank you to all our neighbors for being a member of ANA! You make a huge difference. ☼

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Allandale Neighborhood Association New or Renewal Membership. Celebrate Allandale: Love It. Protect It.

All residents within Allandale's boundaries are welcome to join the Allandale Neighborhood Association. Annual dues are \$15 per household or \$7 (over age 55 household). Membership runs January-December. Dues may be paid in advance for multiple years.

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____

Membership rates: ☐ \$15 dues per household ☐ \$7 dues per age 55+ household

(OPTIONAL: ☐ I'm including an additional contribution of \$_____ to ANA's legal fund)

Please make checks payable to: ANA ■ PO Box 10886 ■ Austin, TX 78766-1886 ■

Or join online via PayPal at: www.allandaleneighbor.com

I am willing to serve on the following committees: ☐ Bylaws ☐ Communications ☐ Finance ☐ Membership
☐ Nominating ☐ Safety ☐ Zoning and Planning ☐ Other _____

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